



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022



Dear Friends in Christ,

Today, the First Sunday of Advent, we begin a new liturgical year of the Church--Year A. The season of Advent is the period of four Sundays that the Church uses to remind us, and asks us first to prepare worthily and consciously to celebrate the first coming of Jesus in Bethlehem bringing the Good News of God's salvation. Secondly, we are reminded to be ready for His second coming in glory at the end of the world, and of each individual receiving His just judgment.

From the first Sunday of Advent to the eleventh of December, the readings of both Sunday and daily Masses will focus on the second coming of Jesus. From the twelfth to the seventeenth of December, the readings (Matthew 1:18-24; Luke 1:26-79) will focus on the first coming of Jesus Christ.

In the scripture readings this weekend, St. Paul calls us to *"awake from sleep. For our salvation is near."* Matthew also informs us to *"stay awake!"* because we do not know the day our Lord will return. Could it be tomorrow, or tonight, or even this instant? Let us be joyfully alert and prepare ourselves so that our Savior finds us ready.

How do we prepare to celebrate Jesus' first coming and make ready for His second coming in glory?

During the Advent Season, as we prepare outwardly to celebrate the first coming of our Lord, we decorate our houses, the town, the Church, with Christmas trees and lights; we go shopping for gifts for our loved ones, and many kinds of other activities that express our joy.

Certainly, there is nothing wrong with doing these things, but that is not the main focus. We need to *decorate our souls* too; and before we do that, we need to clean our souls by receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation. Then we can decorate our souls with acts of charity, especially the act of forgiveness or reconciliation within our family or friends.

Again, we need to be vigilant at all times and make time to pray--*private prayer*, such as saying the rosary, meditation, reading spiritual books, saying morning and evening prayers, sacrificing something, receiving the sacrament of reconciliation; or *public prayer* such as going to daily Mass, attending other liturgical services, doing other public service at Church. We cannot allow the decoration of outside to take the place of, or overshadow, the decoration of inside (our soul).

Friends in Christ, we should remember the main reason for our celebration at Christmas: the birth of the King of the universe, Jesus Christ, who brings joy, peace, love and truth from heaven to earth.

Have a blessed and holy Advent Season.

Peace in Christ, Fr. Tien

Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for Christmas, but we often get distracted and busy. Don't let this Advent pass you by, slow down and focus on what matters most. Sign up at BestAdventEver.com to receive inspirational videos each day, practical tips for your everyday life, and real-life stories to encourage you in your faith journey.

BEST
Advent
EVER





Our Parish Office will be closed on Monday and Wednesday of this week. There will still be daily Mass on those days.

Our Food Pantry could use corn, green beans, sweet peas, mixed vegetables and canned tomato and chicken soup, peanut butter, pancake syrup and monetary donations for our next distribution. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry!!



Beginning on Saturday, December 3rd, the Youth Choir will be practicing from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. for the Christmas Mass. Some have asked for solos or groups. You MUST be there for the practices. The youth are learning more than just singing. They will learn how to properly participate in the Mass.

You can pick up a copy of the Winter Highlights Television Schedules from EWTN in the entrance of the Church.



If you forget to get a bulletin one weekend or were unable to come to Mass, you can go to our website: stfrancisassisifranklin.org. A copy of the bulletin, along with other information and pictures, is available! Check it out!

THE HISTORY OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. A tradition is that each week represents one thousand years, to sum to the 4,000 years from Adam and Eve until the Birth of the Savior. The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, which is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.



Pray for healing: Shirley Allegretti, Rita Bader, Joan Barnum, Ray Behr, Dean Birchard, Junior Boggs, Parker Burkhart, John Wayne Crunkleton, Mary Cude, Lillianne Duong Davis, Carol Fox, Tony Frede, Morgan Hagen & baby, Shannon Halpin, Brandon Hatch, Dariel Hellerer, Donna Hogsed, Jim Holloran, Barry and Guyla Ivers, Aaron Ivey, Ty Kimsey, Chris Marinari, Matthew Marinari, Millard Michaels, Bill, Dee and Germaine Moffitt, Dolores Molter, Monica Moya, Freeman Robinson, Josette Roisin, Bill Shaw, Linda Smith, Catherine Holten Snider, Irene Tisdale, John Turner, Charlene Yudell, Alice Yuzzi

Please pray for our parishioners and all men and women in the armed forces:

Stephen Fox, Kyle McCormick, Lauren Richards, Christopher Richards, Elizabeth Scoon



Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, November 26

4:00 P.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, November 27

First Sunday of Advent

9:00 A.M. † Justino Soriano by his family
11:30 A.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory by the Diaz family

Monday, November 28

9:00 A.M. † Min Galbrecht by Charlene

Tuesday, November 29

NO MASS

Wednesday, November 30

Saint Andrew, Apostle

5:30 P.M. John T. Mielnik by Stanislava Michalik

Thursday, December 1

9:00 A.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory by the Diaz family

Friday, December 2

First Friday & Anointing of the sick

Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr

9:00 A.M. Megan, Kristen, Sheree and Josette by Charlene

Saturday, December 3

Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

First Saturday

8:45 A.M. Benediction
9:00 A.M. Father Tien's Intentions
4:00 P.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, December 4

Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 A.M. † Justino Soriano by his family
11:30 A.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory by the Diaz family

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday 6:15 p.m.

The Rosary

The Rosary is recited one-half hour before Mass.